

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 17, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 27, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 9, 2014

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 26, 2014

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 923**

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**Introduced by Senator Pavley  
(Coauthors: Senators Correa and Wyland)**

January 29, 2014

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An act to add Article 2.3 (commencing with Section 33135) to Chapter 2 of Part 20 of Division 2 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to educational apprenticeships.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 923, as amended, Pavley. Educational apprenticeships: Educational Apprenticeship Innovation ~~Act~~. *Act: EdPrize*.

Existing law establishes the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and specifies that the Superintendent is the ex officio Director of the State Department of Education. Under existing law, the State Department of Education administers numerous programs relating to elementary and secondary education.

This bill would enact the Educational Apprenticeship Innovation Act, pursuant to which a competitive grant, known as the Educational Apprenticeship Innovation Prize (EdPrize), would be distributed to applicant school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, and community college campuses for purposes of promoting apprenticeships, preapprenticeships, and career pathways among local educational agencies, institutions of higher education, and businesses of importance to local economies.

The bill would specify certain minimum criteria to determine the competitive value of an application for the grant.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

3 (a) As reported by Governing Magazine, the United States  
4 Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the unemployment rate of  
5 Californians between 16 and 24 years of age stood at 20.2 percent,  
6 which is the fourth highest in the nation.

7 (b) This high youth unemployment rate has affected young  
8 people who either have not yet earned or will not earn a college  
9 degree particularly hard, as the lack of opportunity can prevent  
10 these young people from fully participating in society, thus  
11 increasing costs for local and state agencies due to increased  
12 reliance on social welfare and public safety resources.

13 (c) This lack of opportunity is likely to increase, as, according  
14 to a study by Opportunity Nation, 60 percent of all jobs will require  
15 at least an associate's degree by 2018.

16 (d) Thousands of jobs across multiple, vital industrial sectors  
17 have gone unfilled due to a shortage of well-trained skilled  
18 workers, resulting in losses in productivity, costs to employers and  
19 the public sector, and an overall erosion of the California and  
20 national economy.

21 (e) According to a study by the Society for Human Resource  
22 Management, 70 percent of California businesses across different  
23 economic sectors stated that it was either somewhat difficult or  
24 very difficult to fill certain positions, mostly due to applicants  
25 lacking the skill sets needed to complete work tasks and  
26 responsibilities.

27 (f) With a large percentage of the skilled workforce approaching  
28 retirement age, the local, state, and national economies will be  
29 facing an even greater skills gap than that which exists today.

30 (g) The dual needs of ensuring that young people are given the  
31 opportunity to learn vital job skills and succeed professionally and  
32 that our businesses have a large pool of skilled workers to fill

1 current and future workforce needs are relevant and interconnected  
2 with each other.

3 (h) Local California educators, communities, and businesses  
4 have long recognized this relevance and interconnectedness, have  
5 experimented on a small scale with different models, and have  
6 taken inspiration from the programs developed in other states like  
7 Massachusetts and countries like Switzerland and Germany.

8 (i) Apprenticeships, preapprenticeship programs, and other  
9 forms of work-based learning provide opportunities for pupils to  
10 explore and begin careers in some of the fastest growing economic  
11 sectors in the state, such as advanced manufacturing, computer  
12 technology and IT services, energy efficiency, clean technology,  
13 nursing and health care services, entertainment, the culinary arts  
14 and hospitality, and banking and financial services.

15 (j) The current and future generations of Californians must be  
16 given the opportunity to work and find avenues to gainful  
17 employment in industrial areas relevant to their local communities  
18 and in order to help them pursue a productive and satisfying future.

19 (k) The State of California, local communities, industry, and  
20 youth would benefit from enhanced opportunities for students to  
21 begin training for high-skill, high-wage jobs while enrolled in high  
22 school.

23 (l) Preparing future generations for career placement and  
24 workplace instruction is best determined by institutions of primary,  
25 secondary, and postsecondary education working in conjunction  
26 with local business, labor, and civic leaders.

27 SEC. 2. Article 2.3 (commencing with Section 33135) is added  
28 to Chapter 2 of Part 20 of Division 2 of Title 2 of the Education  
29 Code, to read:

30  
31 Article 2.3. Educational Apprenticeship Innovation Act  
32

33 33135. This article shall be known, and may be cited, as the  
34 Educational Apprenticeship Innovation Act.

35 33135.5. (a) There is hereby established the Educational  
36 Apprenticeship Innovation Prize (EdPrize) for purposes of  
37 promoting apprenticeships, preapprenticeships, and career pathways  
38 between local educational agencies, institutions of higher  
39 education, and businesses of importance to local economies. Grants  
40 allocated for the EdPrize shall be distributed on a competitive basis

1 to an entity by the Superintendent, subject to funding being made  
2 available in the annual Budget Act.

3 (b) The Superintendent shall use, at minimum, all of the  
4 following criteria to determine the competitive value of an  
5 application:

6 (1) The ability of the proposed program to provide at least two  
7 years of apprenticeship, preapprenticeship, or other forms of  
8 workforce training to eligible high school pupils in grades 11 and  
9 12 or the ability to provide eligible high school pupils with a career  
10 and educational pathways to a campus of the California Community  
11 Colleges.

12 (2) The ability *of the proposed program* to place eligible high  
13 school pupils in apprenticeships, preapprenticeships, internships,  
14 and workplace learning environments in fields determined to be  
15 of local economic importance, as determined through data and  
16 evidence-driven analysis.

17 (3) The ability of the proposed program to provide eligible high  
18 school pupils with the opportunity to work in an economic sector  
19 with gainful employment opportunities or academic pathways that  
20 lead to either a certificate or an associate degree.

21 (4) The ability of the ~~proposal~~ *proposed program* to address the  
22 needs of the local or regional labor market and help competitive  
23 and emerging industry sectors and industry clusters, or to address  
24 the state's need to fill skills gaps and skills shortages in the  
25 economy, including skills gaps and shortages at the regional level.

26 (5) *The ability of the proposed program to collaboratively*  
27 *include business, workforce investment boards, labor or trade*  
28 *organizations, or postsecondary educational institutions of local*  
29 *importance in the development and operation of the program.*

30 ~~(5)~~

31 (6) An assessment of the past performance of the applying  
32 entities if the agency has been awarded other economic and  
33 workforce development grants or other state grants, including an  
34 assessment of whether the grantee's previous awards produced  
35 project deliverables specified in prior grant applications.

36 ~~(6)~~

37 (7) The ability to create a written agreement among the applicant  
38 entities, the participating eligible high school pupils or their  
39 parents, and participating employers in order to ensure commitment  
40 to the pupil's academic and professional success, and ensure the

1 successful completion of the apprenticeship, preapprenticeship,  
2 work-based learning program, or educational pathway.

3 ~~(7)~~

4 (8) The ability to provide participating eligible high school  
5 pupils with a worksite mentor to help train, guide, and supervise  
6 the pupil.

7 *(9) The ability for the proposed program to continue after the*  
8 *expiration of grant funding.*

9 33136.5. As used in this article:

10 (a) “Eligible high school pupil” means a pupil in grade 11 or  
11 12 who has passed, or is exempt from, the high school exit  
12 examination administered under Section 60851 and is satisfactorily  
13 meeting the requirements of Section 51225.3.

14 (b) “Entity” means a school district, county office of education,  
15 charter school, or campus of the California Community Colleges,  
16 applying for funding under this article.